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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone) **CONFIDENTIAL**

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SUBJECT Critical Coal Situation

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

1. Hard coal imported from the Ruhr into the Soviet Zone of Germany was distributed in the past predominantly among gasworks and a few industries which are dependent upon hard coal for operating, such as soda and carbide factories, rolling mills, foundries, etc. Although gas supply has already been cut by approximately 60%, the coal reserves of the gasworks will be exhausted by the end of August, while coal stocks of industrial consumers will not even last until then. The D.M.K. doubts that in addition to its present export commitments and the separate allocation going mainly to Berlin, which is reported to amount to 34,000 tons, Poland will be able to deliver sufficient quantities of hard coal to replace shipments from the Ruhr.
2. On 30 June, the Russian sector of Berlin had 77,850 tons of hard coal in stock. Since most of the electric current for the Soviet sector is supplied from the Soviet Zone, so that the Klingenberg power station was almost at a standstill late in July, coal consumption in the Russian sector of Berlin dropped to 3,800 - 4,000 tons a day. At this rate, present stocks would have lasted until approximately 10 August.
3. The D.M.K., Department of Transportation, has been informed that over a one-year period, beginning 1 July 1948, railways and inland waterways will have to handle imports of hard fuel from Poland amounting to over 2,000,000 tons. The Department of Transportation has already been instructed to make preparations for the hauling of 450,000 tons of coal and 250,000 tons of coke during the period 1 July to 31 December 1948.

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